## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## **AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 9, 2004, please amend as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

Attachments including copies of the first and second sequence alignments; computer printouts of sequence identity calculations (BestFit); and table summarizing sequence identities are attached following page 16 of this paper.